

LIBRARY

1946

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Romsey & Stockbridge

Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

Romsey & Stockbridge Rural District Council

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Report for the year 1946.

SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres)	.....	.....	.....	.....	83,672
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)					22,330
Rateable Value	.....	.....	.....	.....	£129,018
Sum represented by a 1d. rate					£541'65

The District is chiefly a rural one and most of the land is devoted to pasture and agriculture, dairy farming being the principal industry. Three parishes are urban in type and many of their inhabitants work in the town.

Many of the people who came out from Southampton during the war have not returned and have added to our housing difficulties.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	211	181	425	Birth rate per 1,000 population
Illegitimate	18	15		19'9
Still Births	8	7	15	England and Wales 19'1
Deaths	118	106	224	Rate 34
				Death rate per 1,000 population
				10'0
				England and Wales 11.5
Number of women dying in or				Puerperal Sepsis 0.
in consequence of child birth				Other Maternal 5.

The birth rate is above the average and the death rate is low.

The improvement in the health of the school child and welfare child has continued. The pupils in the secondary schools were not looking so well. Many of the young mothers do not appear to be able to successfully breast feed their children and one mother, when I remarked about it, said that the young ones had no previous years of good feeding to fall back on, as they were over school age at the beginning of the war. The older mothers who had previously been able to breast feed are now also finding that they are having some difficulty in breast feeding.

Under the circumstances, the present trend in infant feeding towards the earlier addition of solid foods is an advantage in some ways though had the mothers been able to feed their infants this would have been a great addition to our milk supplies.

SECTION B.—General Provision of Health Services.

(1) *Public Health Officers' of the Authority.*

(a) The Medical Officer of Health is also Assistant County Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health of the adjoining Urban District of Romsey.

(b) The Sanitary Inspector is a whole time Officer.

(2) *Nursing in the Home.*

There is no nursing arrangement or contribution by the Local Authority.

(3) *Laboratory Facilities.*

The County Laboratory.

The Public Health Laboratory, R.H.C. Hospital.

These provide facilities for chemical and bacteriological examinations.

(4) *Hospitals.*

GENERAL—The Romsey and District Hospital.

Southampton Hospital and Broadlands Annexe.

County Hospital at Winchester.

The local authority as such makes no contribution.

INFECTIONS—Where cases cannot be satisfactorily nursed at home, they are admitted, by arrangement, to the Salisbury and District Isolation Hospital and the Southampton Isolation Hospital.

Infantile Paralysis. The County Authorities have arranged for their early admission to L.M.T., Alton.

Tuberculosis. The County Council provide Sanatoria and Dispensaries.

Orthopædic Clinics. Children from the area attend the clinics at Eastleigh, Andover and Totton.

Ambulance Facilities. For infectious cases an ambulance is provided by the Isolation Hospital.

The County Council have Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres at Broughton, Houghton, King's Somborne, Lockerley, West Tytherley, Longstock, Leckford, Maybush, Mottisfont, North Baddesley, Wellow and Wallop.

Scabies Clinic This is held at the Gas Cleansing Station, Love Lane, Romsey. Staff : The Health Visitor, Miss Lane and Mr. and Mrs. Kemp.

107 women, 22 men, 73 children were treated. All the members of the family are treated ; those with evidence of scabies get two treatments, others one.

SECTION E.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

4. Water.

1. (a) The quality of the water supplies in this area is generally satisfactory, with a few exceptions where supplies are obtained from shallow wells liable to local pollution.

(b) The Parishes of Ampfield, Chilworth, Michelmersh, Millbrook, North Baddesley, Nursling and Rownhams and Romsey Extra are provided with a piped supply from the Southampton Corporation mains, and schemes for the extension of this supply to other areas are at present being considered by the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council. The Council are also preparing a scheme to provide the other parishes within this area with a piped supply.

There was no serious shortage during the year.

2. The water supplied by the Southampton Corporation is examined and tested by that Authority.

3. The piped supply is not liable to have a plumbo-solvent action.

4. Contamination has been found in some wells, this has been rectified by cleansing and pumping the water from the well.

5. (a)

Parish	Est. No. of houses in Parish	Est. No. of houses connected to public water mains
Ampfield	283	173
Ashley	24	-
King's Somborne	375	-
Little Somborne	17	-
Bossington	22	-
Houghton	121	-
Broughton	302	-
Buckholt	7	-
East Tytherley.....	79	-
Chilworth	171	140
East Dean	64	-
Frenchmoor	16	9
West Tytherley	142	-
Leckford	47	-
Lockerley	184	-
Longstock	130	-
Melchet Park and Plaitford	79	-
Michelmersh	340	123
Millbrook	1257	1120
Mottisfont	129	-
Nether Wallop.....	240	-
North Baddesley	318	300
Nursling and Rownhams	496	333
Over Wallop	218	-
Romsey Extra	408	93
Sherfield English	304	-
Stockbridge	226	-
Wellow	452	-

(b) There are no standpipe supplies.

5. *Drainage and Sewerage.*

During the year there has been no new works of sewerage or sewage disposal.

6. *Factories.*

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Defects entailing prosecution
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	-	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sanitary Conveniences—</i>					
(a) Insufficient	4	4	-	4	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Lack of wholesome water supply	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	1	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	8	7	-	6	-

Two outworkers were employed in this District during the year.

SECTION F.—Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

There was one case of Diphtheria, a woman aged 30. Diphtheria Immunisation has been carried out since 1935 and a large proportion of the young population, including those at present at school have been immunised.

At the end of 1946 the number of children in the District between the ages of 1 and 15, who had been immunised, were as follows :—

under 1	27	} Total 2779.
1	243	
2	217	
3	246	
4	195	
5—9	1050	
10—14	801	

There was a slight outbreak of Scarlet Fever. As there had been an epidemic of measles the previous year, there were few cases of measles. There were three deaths from Whooping Cough.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than tuberculosis)

DURING THE YEAR 1946.

Disease			Total number notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	...	...	7	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	13	2	3
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	27	9	0
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	1	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	1	1	0
Erysipelas	...	...	5	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	7	2	0
Chicken Pox	...	...	3	0	0

CANCER.

Deaths :—Males 10, Females 12 : Total 22.

The number of deaths is below the average.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified 19. Pulmonary ... Males 11 Females 4.

Non-Pulmonary Males 1 Females 3.

Number of deaths 8. This is about the average number.

TABLE.

Causes of death in Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District, 1946.

Cause of Death ALL CAUSES			Males 119	Females 106
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	2
Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	5	2
Other T.B.	...	...	0	1
Syphilitic	...	...	1	0
Influenza	...	...	1	1
A.C. Polio	...	...	0	1
Cancer	...	...	10	12
Diabetes	...	...	1	0
Intra Cranial...	...	...	16	14
Heart	...	...	35	30
Other Circulatory	...	...	3	2
Bronchitis	...	...	8	6
Pneumonia	...	...	4	3
Other Resp.	...	...	1	1
Ulcer Stomach	...	...	3	0
Diarrhoea (under 2)	...	...	2	0
Other Digestive	...	...	1	2
Nephritis	...	...	4	1
Other Maternal	...	...	0	5
Premature Birth	...	...	2	4
Congenital and Birth injuries	...	...	3	1
Suicide	...	...	4	1
Road Traffic...	...	...	4	0
Other Violent	...	...	3	2
All Other	...	...	7	15

Deaths from Cerebral Hæmorrhage are above the average, from Cancer below the average and deaths from the other causes about average.

Yours faithfully,

G. TATE, Medical Officer of Health.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30040255>

